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Date: May 9, 2001

By: Joy A. Roeder  
Joy A. Roeder

Patent  
Attorney's Docket No. 032005-069

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of )  
Andrew H. Cragg, et al. ) Group Art Unit: 3761  
Application No.: 09/613,439 ) Examiner: Unknown  
Filed: July 11, 2000 )  
For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR )  
FACILITATING HEMOSTASIS )  
OF BLOOD VESSEL PUNCTURES )  
WITH ABSORBABLE SPONGE )

**RECEIVED**  
MAY 21 2001  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

**SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please add the following new claims to the above-identified application as follows:

**In the Claims:**

Please add the following new Claims 25-60:

gab  
12cl

25. (New) A method for facilitating hemostasis of a puncture in the wall of a blood vessel, the method comprising:  
loading an introducer with a pledget of sponge;  
loading the introducer over a guidewire positioned in the blood vessel by  
inserting the guidewire through the loaded pledget; and

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01 FC:202  
02 FC:203  
120.00 OP  
360.00 OP